

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Where was it, before?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Under Agriculture.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): I am very sorry to point out that the member was very misleading in his answer. I was not able to find it under Agriculture and Fisheries; and so I asked him whether it was being continued as hitherto. He said "Yes." He now says it is under 'Royal Stables.' It is really unbecoming on the part of the member on the other side to mislead me.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I take objection to that.

PRESIDENT: The member answered to the effect that the Cattle Farm was being continued though he did not say under which department it was being continued. You did not ask that question. Mr. Damodaran Asan asked pointedly under which department it was being continued. So he has stated that it is being continued under the Royal Stables. I don't think there is anything wrong in that.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether the Cattle Farm—

PRESIDENT: I cannot allow you to put questions now. Your turn is over.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know why it has been transferred from the Department of Agriculture?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It has been transferred to the Palace Dairy Farm to be managed as a Cattle Farm as an experimental measure.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Was it working satisfactorily under the Agricultural Department?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know the reasons that induced the Government to make this change?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government considered that it will work more satisfactorily if it were transferred.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): May I know whether the needs of the public will be satisfied after it is transferred?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Drought in the State.

140. * MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have got reports or representations from the officers or the public regarding the prevailing drought and the consequent hardships to the ryots, and, if so, what special measures, if any, they propose taking to give relief to the people?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Government have received representations from the public regarding

the prevailing drought. The matter was also prominently brought to the notice of Government by means of a resolution at the last sitting of the Sri Chithra State Council and an adjournment motion in the Sri Mulam Assembly. Government called for and obtained detailed reports showing the actual state of affairs in various parts of the State, and, after careful consideration of all the circumstances, they have sanctioned the following reliefs by way of general remission of tax and water cess due from the ryots for the Kumbham crop of 1110:—

(1) In the case of *ayacut* wet lands and post-settlement tank-bed registries in Tovala and Agastiswaram taluks, the percentage of land revenue remission for the Kumbham crop has been raised from 18½ per cent. already allowed as per G. O. Dis No. 1598/34/Rev., dated 12-10-34, to 50 per cent. and made to apply to the water cess borne on those lands as well.

(2) Where the crops on dry land conversions, both regular and irregular, in those two taluks have completely failed for the Kumbham crop, complete remission of water cess has been granted for that crop and, where there has been only partial failure, 50 per cent. remission of the water cess due for that crop has been granted.

(3) Water cess for the Kumbham crop on dry land conversions in Kalkulam taluk, the crops on which failed completely, has been remitted as a special case.

(4) *Karivu* remission for the Kumbham crop on *ayacut* wet lands, post-settlement tank-bed registries, etc., in Kalkulam and Vilavankod taluks, has been sanctioned to include also the water cess charged on them;

(5) All wet lands, including dry land conversions, the crops on which completely failed on account of drought for the Kumbham crop, have been allowed remission in the taluks of Kalkulam, Vilavankod, Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum, Nedumangad and Chirayinkil even though the parties might not have preferred applications therefor.

(6) In the case of wet lands in the above six taluks and dry land conversions in Kalkulam taluk, the paddy crops on which have escaped complete destruction, the 12½ per cent. general remission has been raised to 25 per cent. for the Kumbham crop alone, in view of the very low yield obtained and in the case of lands in the Kalkulam and Vilavankod taluks, this 25 per cent. remission has been extended to water cess also; and

(7) The tax for the Kumbham crop has been remitted, as a special case, in the case of *punya* lands in the Mavelikara and Kartikapalli taluks on an extent of 200.34 and 677.14 acres, respectively, on which the crops were completely destroyed by the drought.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*). With reference to paragraph (5) of the answer, may I know the proportion of the remissions for dry land conversions and for failure of crops?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I have not got the statistics with me. So, I am not able to give an answer just now.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): May I know what Government have given as remission to each of the taluks?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): The total remission is about Rs. 6 lakhs. I have not got the figures for each of the taluks.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): May I know whether it is a fact that no remission has been given where there was a substantial loss of crops?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): It is given in the answer.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankodā*): May I know whether Government propose to start any relief in the rural areas?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): I rise to a point of order. Does this question arise out of the original question, Sir?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): With reference to part (7) of the answer, may I know whether any remissions were given for the Kumbham crop in the taluks of Kunnattur and Pattanapuram?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): In the answer given in part (7), I see that there is a mistake in the light of subsequent information received. The figures '200.34' and '677.14' should be read as '465.58' and '263.38.'

As regards the question asked, I may say that no remission has been given as yet.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): May I know, Sir, whether there was representation from the ryots of those taluks for remission on account of the failure of crops?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): Yes, Sir, there have been representations. I have addressed Government on the subject and the matter is under consideration.

Remission of tax.

[141.] *MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether land revenue remission has been given to all the Divisions in the State for this year (1110); and

(b) if the answer to part (a) is in the negative, the Divisions and the Taluks that do not enjoy this concession?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*):

(a) Land revenue remission has been sanctioned in all the Divisions in the State for this year on account of the general economic condition as per G. O. R. Dis. No. 1598/34 Rev., dated 12-10-1934.

(b) This does not arise.